DPW Ms. Anderson (287-4058) 7 February 2005

IMSW-HOD-PWH

SUBJECT: Housing Referral Services Fact Sheet

<u>PURPOSE:</u> To provide information on available housing services and programs available to Soldiers assigned to Fort Hood.

FACTS:

- 1. The following housing referral services are available to assist Soldiers and their families who are seeking off-post housing:
- a. Available rental units in the surrounding communities (30 mile radius). Vacancy listings are updated daily.
 - b. Assistance in resolving complaints between tenant and landlords.
 - c. Lease review/clarification upon request by prospective occupant.
 - d. Information on low-income housing, Schools, Food Stamps, and WIC program.
- 2. The following programs are available to assist Soldiers and their families in finding a place to live at a reasonable rate.
- a. Utility Deposit Waiver Deposit waivers are available for electric, water, natural gas, and telephone. Estimated savings per household is \$400. However, Soldiers must inprocess through the Housing Office prior to receiving a waiver.
- b. Rental Deposit Waiver Participating landlords agree to waive security deposit (not pet deposit) based on credit checks. The program is available to all Soldiers to help offset relocation costs.
- c. Tenant/Landlord The Housing Office has an Arbitrator who mediates disputes between tenant and landlords which involve more than \$100. The Arbitrator's decision is legally binding. This process may be used in lieu of filing in small claims court.
- 3. All newly assigned personnel are requested to contact the Housing Office prior to making arrangements for off-post housing. This is for the purpose of ensuring that Soldiers do not rent facilities placed off-limits or on restrictive sanctions.
- 4. Visit our website at www.dpw.hood.army.mil for more information on housing services and policies.

(Original Signed)

AUTHENTICATION: CAROL J. ANDERSON 7 February 2005